Agreement has been signed with Tamil Nadu for Rs. 2182 crore for restoration of 5763 water bodies having a CCA of 4 lakh hectares, with Andhra Pradesh for Rs. 835 crore for restoration of 3000 water bodies with a CCA of 2.5 lakh hectares, with Karnataka for Rs. 268 crore for restoration of 1225 water bodies having a CCA of 0.52 lakh hectare and with Orissa for Rs. 478 crore for restoration of 900 water bodies with CCA of 1.2 lakh hectare.

Conservation of water bodies in Kashmir

3014. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether conservation of water bodies in Kashmir is receiving any attention in the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) The Government of India approved restoration of 22 water bodies in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) at the cost of Rs. 3.06 crore under the pilot scheme for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies during Tenth Plan period. The Government has further approved a programme for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore for Eleventh Plan. The programme covers all States of the country including Jammu and Kashmir.

Salinity and water logging

3015. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the magnitude of salinity and water logging (sem), in irrigated commands, State-wise and percentage-wise;

(b) the reasons therefor and loss accrued to crop production, how serious is this threat; and

(c) the corrective steps taken and their effectivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Central Water Commission has carried out a study on "Assessment of water logging, saline and/or alkaline soils in the commands of all major and medium irrigation commands in all the States of India and Union Territories, using satellite remote sensing". The State-wise data in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) With the start of the planned irrigation development in the post independence era, farmers started using irrigation water (sometimes more than needed) in the irrigated commands. In areas, where drainage was not adequate, this resulted in the rise of ground water table. The seepage from unlined canals further contributed to the problem. The rise in ground water table brought the excessive harmful salts on the land surface causing salinity under waterlogged conditions. The germination of seeds does not take place properly and the root developments are inadequate thereby affecting the health and production of crops under waterlogged conditions. Also, waterlogging causes environmental and ecosystem damage.